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SECURITY INFORMATION

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WESTERN EUROPE

1. Italy sees no possibility of Trieste negotiations: The Italian Foreign Ministry, as a result of strong popular reaction to the publicity given the proposed American-British-French discussions on Trieste, now sees no possibility of negotiations with Yugoslavia over this issue, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] He states that, in view of the Christian Democratic Party's lack of an absolute majority in the senate, the Foreign Ministry feels that it cannot negotiate a compromise solution without undermining the government.

Although Marshal Tito stated recently that he is not unalterably opposed to a division of the territory, Yugoslav officials are reportedly convinced that negotiations based on an ethnic approach would inevitably involve concessions unacceptable to Rome. [REDACTED]

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2. East German reorganization brings further personnel shifts: The East German Cabinet on 21 August directed that Chief of the Coordination and Control Office for Administration, Werner Eggerath, should replace the former State Secretary of the Ministry of Interior, Hans Warnke, as Deputy Chairman of the Central Commission for Tables of Allocation. (S/ Sensitive, [REDACTED] 3 Sept 52)

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Comment: Former Thuringian Minister-President Eggerath, with his acquisition of vast powers over local administration under the new administrative setup in East Germany, appears to have emerged as one of the top men in the East German Government. His additional duties on the Commission for

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Tables of Allocation, with its authority over personnel allotments, would appear to be a normal consequence of his new position.

Former State Secretary Warnke was recently appointed Chairman of the District Council of Rostock, a reassignment generally regarded as a demotion. Although the vacancy thus created in the Ministry of Interior was filled, the absence of an Interior Ministry representative on the Commission for Tables of Allocation may be a further indication that the Ministry, under the direction of Willi Stoph, is concentrating more and more on defense matters.

3. Improvement seen in Berlin situation: Soviet harassment of West Berlin in the past two weeks has seemed less menacing than previously. Although various small-scale incidents still occur, recent developments suggest that no early Soviet effort to alter the status of the city is planned.

Over 70,000 tons of brown coal have already been delivered to West Berlin under the terms of the recently signed East-West German trade agreement, and East German officials have hinted that the Rothensee ship-lift on the Mittelland Canal will soon be reopened. There has also been a relaxation of some East Berlin restrictions on access to West Berlin exclaves.

Although Allied officials in Germany are more optimistic now than they were a month ago, they warn that the Berlin situation could deteriorate at any time. (Factual data from: S S/S Bonn 914, 29 Aug 52; S Bonn 926, 2 Sept 52; C Berlin Unnumbered, 27 Aug 52)

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